WHAT? YOU WANT ME TO JOIN ONE OF THE ROYAL COURT'S AGENT SQUADS?
YOU'LL BASICALLY JUST BE WORKING ON VARIOUS THINGS FOR ME. SO HOW ABOUT IT?
WELL... YOU'LL JUST BE A CIVILIAN ENGINEER HELPING THE DARK GOD SQUAD
I'M LUCKY ENOUGH TO BE WORKING NOT JUST FOR ANY OLD SQUAD BUT THE FAMOUS DARK GOD SQUAD!
O-OKAY... JUST SIGN THIS CONTRACT...
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OF COURSE! I'D BE HAPPY TO!
I'M CURRENTLY WORKING ON MAKING SOMETHING. BUT I NEED A STABLE SUPPLY OF QUALITY IRON FOR IT
MY OWN ABILITY ISN'T GOOD FOR CREATING THINGS

HUH? IS THAT REALLY FINE?
IT'S ULTIMATELY UP TO THAT PERSON.
HM? YOU WANT TO HIRE AN ENGINEER FOR THE SAKE OF MATERIALS?
JUST MAKE HIM ONE OF YOUR SUBORDINATES IN THE DARK GOD SQUAD.
HEY.
THOUGH THAT'S REALLY BECAUSE I FORMED YOUR SQUAD TO SERVE ME PERSONALLY.
YOU LEAD THE DARK GOD SQUAD, ONE OF THE BEST SQUADS IN THE ROYAL COURT, AND YET YOU STILL ONLY HAVE 5 MEMBERS.
I SEE. SO THAT'S HOW IT IS...
AS SUCH, YOU CAN INVITE PEOPLE YOU WANT INTO YOUR SQUAD YOURSELF.
THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY, SO I'LL EXPLAIN IT ALL TO YOU. BUT KEEP IN MIND THAT MANY WANT TO JOIN YOUR SQUAD.
THEY'RE ALL JUST AFTER YOUR SPECIAL EQUIPMENT THOUGH.

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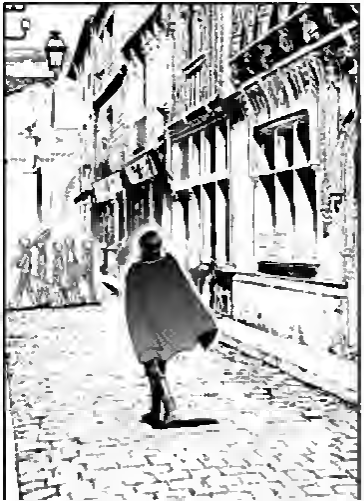
WELL
I NEVER REALLY WENT PAST THE LEVEL OF PLASTIC MODELS AND RADIO CONTROLLED STUFF
SUPPOSEDLY IT'S POSSIBLE TO EVEN MAKE THEM SPIN IN REVERSE BUT I'M NOT TOO FAMILIAR WITH HOW IT WORKS
HMM...
A MECHANISM CONSISTING OF MANY GEAR WHEELS THAT ALLOWS FOR THE SWITCHING OF GEARS
THIS IS VERY INTERESTING
BUT WHEN I USE THE GIMMICK ON IT SOME MYSTERIOUS FORCE STARTS MOVING IT
IT'S TRULY A MYSTERY
VERY WELL
I WILL DEVOTE MYSELF TO STUDYING IT

ULTIMATELY I WANT TO USE IT TO MAKE A VEHICLE THAT CAN RUN AS FAST AS OUR SQUAD'S CART

WHAT AN INNOVATIVE IDEA!
えっとう…
OH, HOW WONDERFUL!

THE POWERLESS CLEANERS SEEM TO BE RATHER CALM.
WELL, THAT'S A GOOD THING REALLY...

HM?



IT'S IFOCA. I GUESS IT'S HER DAY OFF
SHE SEEMS TO JUST BE SPACING OUT WHILE CARRYING A HEAVY LOAD. THAT'S PRETTY DANGEROUS.
IFOCA
AAAH!
C-C-C-CAPTAIN?!
I-I WAS JUST SHOPPING... T-T-T-THESE ARE ALL JUST INGREDIENTS FOR COOKING!
.....
I SEE...
UH... THEY LOOK HEAVY. SO HOW ABOUT I HELP YOU CARRY THEM?
...I N-NO IT'S FINE!

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IFOCA...
YOU'RE ACTING WEIRD...
Y-YES?
UGH...
HEY ISN'T THAT THE CAPTAIN OF THE DARK GOD SQUAD?
IS HE HAVING A LOVER'S TIFF WITH THAT LITTLE GIRL? BUT I RECALL HE'S ALSO BEEN SEEN WITH THE PRINCESS.
HE ONLY SEEMS TO EVER BE SEEN WITH CHILDREN.
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THAT'S NOT IT!

CAPTAIN... I'M SORRY FOR NOT TELLING YOU
I WAS JUST A BIT SURPRISED...
LET'S TALK ABOUT THAT INSIDE YOUR HOUSE IT'S A BIT RISKY OUT HERE

MOM I'M HOME
PARDON ME
WELCOME HOME IFOCA... OH?

I RECALL YOU'RE HER CAPTAIN WELCOME!
WE RAN INTO EACH OTHER AT THE MARKET SO I HELPED CARRY SOME OF THE BAGS
OH MY.

I'LL JUST LEAVE IT HERE...
OH. IT'S YUUSUKE.
HAAH...

SHINHA!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
THAT'S A SECRET. BUT ENTERING THIS COUNTRY SURE IS AS EASY AS EVER
SO WHY ARE YOU HANGING AROUND IN IFOCA'S HOUSE?
IF A POWERLESS PERSON JUST HIDES THEIR PRESENCE THE WIND ARTISTS WILL NEVER NOTICE THEM
YOU'RE A KING, ISN'T DOING RIDICULOUS STUFF LIKE THIS A BIT MUCH?
HAH THIS IS NOTHING TO ME

UM... I... MY PARENTS WERE... WERE INDEBTED...
SO THEN WHEN YOU... I THOUGHT... IT WAS JUST SO SUDDEN...
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I FELT SHE WOULDN'T HAND ME OVER TO THE AUTHORITIES
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YOU UNDERSTOOD THAT?
...DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE A GAMER
IS THAT ANOTHER POWER OF THE EVIL GOD?
HMM... SO YOU WERE JUST GOING TO REPORT TO ME LATER?
IT MOSTLY IS AND WHILE THERE'S SOME PEOPLE WHO DISAGREE WITH MY GOALS AND METHODS THEY WOULDN'T DO THIS
IS GAZETTA NOT COMPLETELY UNDER YOUR CONTROL?
YOU CAME HERE BECAUSE OF THE POWERLESS VILLAGE BEING ATTACKED RIGHT?

THAT'S TRUE
THE FACT THAT THEY WERE HEADED TOWARDS THE BLUE GARDEN BORDER IS ALSO CONCERNING
WE ACTUALLY CAME UNDER ATTACK BY WHAT LOOKED LIKE ONE OF FONCLANC'S UNITS
BUT I JUST CAN'T IMAGINE ESVOBUS ISSUING ORDERS LIKE THAT
...I SUPPOSE THEY'LL BOTH BE EATING DINNER HERE...
SO ARE THESE REMNANTS OF IZAPPNAR'S CAMP?
I DON'T KNOW IF I'D WORD IT THAT WAY BUT I DO AGREE
I'LL JUST SAY THIS NOW BUT RISH DOESN'T HAVE THE BALLS TO DO THAT
W W W- WHO ARE YOU?! WHEN DID YOU...
YOUR PRESENCE... ALREADY INSIDE...
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HELLO~ IS YUUSUKE HERE?

HAHAHA! IT'S BEEN A WHILE OH AND SORRY FOR SURPRISING YOU
AND NOW YOU APPEAR
A LARGE ARMED GROUP THAT SEEMS TO BELONG TO GAZETTA IS MARCHING THROUGH OUR TERRITORY
I'VE GOT AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR YOU
YOU SURE KNOW A LOT OF UNUSUAL PEOPLE
LOOK WHO'S TALKING
THEY'RE HEADED IN THE DIRECTION OF ONE OF THE VOACE HOUSE'S VILLAGES
THAT REMINDS ME... HIVODIR MENTIONED THAT HE WAS GONNA GO CHECK ON THE VILLAGES...
!!

PROBABLY SO THE DARK GOD SQUAD IS NOW BEING ORDERED TO HEAD THERE
WERE THEY INTERFERED WITH?
WE TRIED CONTACTING THE VOACE HOUSE'S PRIVATE AGENTS, BUT THE MESSAGES DIDN'T SEEM TO REACH THEM
THIS IS AN URGENT ORDER FROM KING ESVOBUS
I HAVEN'T REPORTED TO THE PRINCESS YET.
IS THIS VOLET'S ORDER?
WOAH HE'S REALLY AT IFOCA'S PLACE...
CAPTAIN! WE'VE BEEN ORDERED TO MOVE OUT!

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... DON'T THINK ABOUT IT.
UM, CAPTAIN...
IT'S BEST YOU DON'T THINK TOO MUCH OF THIS
BUT...

YOU'RE THE LAST ONE I'D WANNA HEAR THAT FROM!
MORE IMPORTANTLY YOU SHOULD EXTINGUISH THE LIGHTS SOON
DON'T ISSUE COMMANDS FOR ME!
!
TH- THERE'S SOMEONE AHEAD
THERE'S A FIRE ARTIST'S AURA ON A HORSE!

HIVODIR!
AH!
HEY
ARE YOU
ALRIGHT?!
H-HEY THERE
YUUSUKE
DID YOU COME
TO HELP?
WHAT
HAPPENED?!

THE WIND ARTISTS WHO WERE SEARCHING FOR ENEMIES WERE TAKEN OUT BEFORE WE EVEN NOTICED
THEY BLOCKED THE ENTRANCE TO THE PRIVATE AGENTS LODGE AND SPLIT UP THE AGENTS EMPLOYEES AND MYSELF
...WE WERE ATTACKED... BY PEOPLE DRESSED LIKE GAZETTA SOLDIERS...
BUT ONE OF THEM SUDDENLY USED FIRE ARTS IN COMBAT...
...THE FIRST ENEMIES APPEARED TO BE POWERLESS SOLDIERS...
WAIT-
MOST LIKELY... THEY LOOK LIKE POWERLESS PEOPLE BUT THEIR AURAS-
SO THEY'RE JUST DISGUISED?!

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THERE'S ONE!
HIVODIR THIS IS...
I'VE GOT A GOOD IDEA OF WHAT'S GOING ON
YOU WERE ESCAPING ALONE WITH THOSE INJURIES SO ARE ALL YOUR SUBORDINATES DEAD? WHAT ABOUT THE VILLAGERS?
IFOCA... CAN YOU TELL WHAT'S GOING ON UP AHEAD?
NO IT'S TOO FAR AWAY...
BUT... THERE'S SOME DISTURBANCE IN THE AIR THERE SO IT'S LIKELY THEY'RE STILL FIGHTING
THAT'S RIGHT!
MY SERVANTS HELD BACK THE ENEMY TO LET ME ESCAPE!

SAVE MY SERVANTS BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE SET IT ALL ON FIRE
WE BETTER HURRY!
?!
C-CAPTAIN! I SENSE PEOPLE IN THE THICKET AHEAD
THEY'RE FIGHTING OVER THERE!

ARGH... VORMAL I'LL LEAVE YOU IN COMMAND
SHINHA!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS, YOU ALL KEEP GOING!
KEEP HEADING TOWARDS THE VILLAGE BUT IF IT GETS DICEY YOU CAN JUST RUN

GIVEN THE SITUATION CAN WE COUNT ON YOUR HELP?
O-OF COURSE JUST LEAVE IT TO ME!

WHAT WILL YOU DO?
WE'VE GOT OUR ORDERS. WE'LL HEAD TO THE VILLAGE!

ARE YOU SURE YOU SHOULD GO WITH ME?
YOUR SUBORDINATES DIDN'T LOOK LIKE THEY WOULD FARE WELL IN A FIGHT
IF THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, DON'T JUST RUN OFF ALONE
ANYWAYS I TRUST THEM AND HIVODIRS WITH THEM AS WELL, SO IT'LL BE FINE
THAT'S RATHER ADMIRABLE YOU'LL USE EVERYONE, EVEN THOSE INJURED?
HUH? EISHA'S ALREADY HEALED HIS WOUNDS THOUGH
AND THEY'RE ALL AGENTS WORKING FOR THE COURT ANYWAYS
LET'S GO THEN!
HM, A WISE DECISION